

WE CLAIM:

Sub A3

1. An absorbent garment comprising:

a chassis including a front panel and a back panel;

first and second side panels, each being releasably connected to the front and back panels, and defining with the chassis a waist opening and first and second leg openings;

wherein the first side panel includes first and second fastening components, the second side panel includes third and fourth fastening components, the front panel includes first and third mating fastening components engageable with the first and third fastening components, and the back panel includes second and fourth mating fastening components engageable with the second and fourth fastening components.

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2. The absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein each of the fastening components comprises a hook material and each of the mating fastening components comprises a loop material.

3. The absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein each of the fastening components comprises a loop material and each of the mating fastening components comprises a hook material.

4. The absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein two of the fastening components and two of the mating fastening components each comprise a hook material, and two of the fastening components and two of the mating fastening components each comprise a loop material.

5. The absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein the first and second side panels comprise a wipe material.

6. The absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein the chassis comprises an elastic material.

7. The absorbent garment of Claim 6, wherein the first and second side panels comprise an elastic material.

8. The absorbent garment of Claim 6, wherein the first and second side panels comprise an inelastic material.

9. The absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein the chassis comprises an inelastic material and the first and second side panels comprise an elastic material.

10. The absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein the chassis comprises a disposable material.

11. The absorbent garment of Claim 10, wherein the first and second side panels comprise a disposable material.

12. The absorbent garment of Claim 10, wherein the first and second side panels comprise a durable material.

13. The absorbent garment of Claim 10, wherein the chassis comprises a flushable outer cover, a flushable body side liner, and a flushable absorbent assembly.

14. The absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein the first and second side panels each comprise at least two pieces of material bonded to one another.

15. The absorbent garment of Claim 14, wherein at least one of the pieces of material is elastomeric and at least one of the pieces of material is non-elastomeric.

Sub 37 16. The absorbent garment of Claim 14, wherein a first non-elastomeric piece of material is bonded to a second elastomeric piece of material and a third non-elastomeric piece of material is bonded to the second elastomeric piece of material.

17. The absorbent garment of Claim 1, comprising a diaper.

18. The absorbent garment of Claim 1, comprising child training pants.

19. The absorbent garment of Claim 1, comprising an adult incontinence garment.

20. The absorbent garment of Claim 1, comprising swim wear.

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21. An absorbent garment comprising:

an absorbent chassis including a front panel and a back panel;

first and second elastomeric side panels releasably connected to the front and back panels and defining with the chassis a waist opening and first and second leg openings;

a first refastenable seam extending from the waist opening to the first leg opening between the first side panel and the front panel;

a second refastenable seam extending from the waist opening to the first leg opening between the first side panel and the back panel;

a third refastenable seam extending from the waist opening to the second leg opening between the second side panel and the front panel; and

a fourth refastenable seam extending from the waist opening to the second leg opening between the second side panel and the back panel.

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22. The absorbent garment of Claim 21, wherein the first seam

comprises a fastening material on an inner surface adjacent a distal edge of the front panel and a mating fastening material on a corresponding outer surface adjacent a distal edge of the first side panel.

23. The absorbent garment of Claim 21, wherein the first seam comprises a fastening material on an outer surface adjacent a distal edge of the front panel and a mating fastening material on a corresponding inner surface adjacent a distal edge of the first side panel.

24. The absorbent garment of Claim 21, wherein the second seam comprises a fastening material on an inner surface adjacent a distal edge of the back panel and a mating fastening material on a corresponding outer surface adjacent a distal edge of the first side panel.

25. The absorbent garment of Claim 21, wherein the second seam comprises a fastening material on an outer surface adjacent a distal edge of the back panel and a mating fastening material on a corresponding inner surface adjacent a distal edge of the first side panel.

26. The absorbent garment of Claim 21, wherein the third seam comprises a fastening material on an inner surface adjacent a distal edge of the front panel and a mating fastening material on a corresponding outer surface adjacent a distal edge of the second side panel.

27. The absorbent garment of Claim 21, wherein the third seam comprises a fastening material on an outer surface adjacent a distal edge of the front panel and a mating fastening material on a corresponding inner surface adjacent a distal edge of the second side panel.

28. The absorbent garment of Claim 21, wherein the fourth seam comprises a fastening material on an inner surface adjacent a distal edge of the back panel and a mating fastening material on a corresponding outer surface adjacent a distal edge of the second side panel.

29. The absorbent garment of Claim 21, wherein the fourth seam comprises a fastening material on an outer surface adjacent a distal edge of the back panel and a mating fastening material on a corresponding inner surface adjacent a distal edge of the second side panel.

30. The absorbent garment of Claim 21, wherein the absorbent chassis further comprises an outer cover that functions as a loop material.

31. The absorbent garment of Claim 21, wherein the absorbent chassis further comprises a flushable outer cover.

32. The absorbent garment of Claim 21, wherein the absorbent chassis further comprises a flushable body side liner.

33. The absorbent garment of Claim 21, wherein the absorbent chassis further comprises a flushable absorbent assembly.

34. An absorbent garment comprising:
a chassis including a front panel and a back panel, the front and back panels each having at least two fastening components bonded thereon, and partially defining a waist opening and first and second leg openings;

a first side panel including a substrate and at least two mating fastening components extending from the waist opening to the first leg opening, at least one of the mating fastening components releasably connected to at least one of the fastening components on one of the front and back panels; and

a second side panel including a substrate and at least two mating fastening components extending from the waist opening to the second leg opening, at least one of the mating fastening components releasably connected to at least one of the fastening components on one of the front and back panels.

35. The absorbent garment of Claim 34, wherein the fastening components comprise a hook material and the mating fastening components comprise a loop material.

36. The absorbent garment of Claim 34, wherein the fastening components comprise a loop material and the mating fastening components comprise a hook material.

37. The absorbent garment of Claim 34, wherein the first and second side panels comprise an elastic material.

38. The absorbent garment of Claim 34, wherein the first and second side panels comprise a wipe material.

39. The absorbent garment of Claim 34, wherein the first and second side panels each comprise at least one tearable, non-refastenable seam.

40. The absorbent garment of Claim 34, wherein the chassis comprises a flushable outer cover, a flushable body side liner, and a flushable absorbent assembly.